

I'm writing this testimony from outside of Bloomfield. I live in Litchfield.

But then, the water in question does not stay within the boundaries of any town. Water belongs to everyone in the wider area of aquifers and water tables.

My hope is that the citizens of Bloomfield will win this revised and fair legislation for water. I understand that in any town the selectmen and others in charge come to think of bringing business into town a top priority, and I think the Selectmen in Bloomfield may have missed the red flags on this seeming opportunity. Clean water is more precious than money or jobs. It is a life necessity.

I'm repeating the points below that we as a group have agreed upon.

The bill as raised in the committee required revision. Sen. Bye has sent in substitute language and we want to support this **substituted bill**. Points to consider:

- **Protect residents, not water bottlers during a drought.** If the DPH declares a Drought Advisory, the production of bottled water for export out of state needs to stop.
- **Rescind water rate discounts for water bottlers.** They extract large amounts of our municipal water and spring water, fill the environment with plastic pollution, and profit while citizens are conserving and paying more.
- **Rescind the *Special Sewer Service Charge* discount for water bottlers (now known as the *Clean Water Project Charge*).** CT ratepayers have paid for years to build infrastructure for clean water; no discounts for corporations.
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch dog committee.**
- **Impose a moratorium on any new large capacity agreements** until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issue of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds.

**Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Please**

**work for the water we need for life.**

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